

9-15-1969

Correspondence, John C. Stennis, September 15-26, 1969

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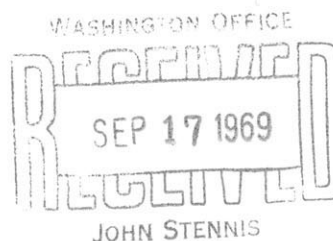
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[REDACTED]
CAPITAL SURPLUS AND UNDIVIDED PROFITS OVER \$ 500, 000.00

[REDACTED]
MACON, MISS.



September 15, 1969

Honorable John C. Stennis
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator John:

I wonder if you saw the enclosed write-up in last Wednesday's Memphis Commercial Appeal, by Nick Thimmesch on the subject of School Integration and Hypocrisy, and I just wonder if you would have any comments to make on it. It does seem strange to me that, if the information contained in this write-up is true, the prominent individuals named would be inconsistent enough to thrust integration down the throats of the poor people of the South, while they, themselves, seem unwilling to allow their own children to attend mixed schools.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

PS/jh

JOHN C. STENNIS, MISS., CHAIRMAN

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

29-c
General
(unofficial)

September 26, 1969

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Macon, Mississippi

Dear [REDACTED]:

This is a special word of thanks for your fine letter regarding the problem of school desegregation.

The article which you enclosed certainly proves what I have said for many years. These people simply do not believe in the cause that they publicly support. I can assure you that I am doing everything possible to see that this is brought home to them.

Frankly there has not been a problem since I have been in Congress that has troubled me more or a problem to which I have devoted more time in an effort to find a solution. I have had repeated conferences with the President, the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, the Attorney General, and others, trying to get some relief. I am happy that in these thirty-three Southern Mississippi School District cases that the Secretary of HEW and the Attorney General asked for a delay and that the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals granted it. This was the only proper and reasonable course to follow and I am hopeful that it will mean the retention of freedom of choice for at least this year.

In addition, I have recently introduced legislation and made a speech on the Senate Floor regarding this problem. I have enclosed a copy for your information. At the proper time, I will also introduce amendments to the HEW and Justice Department Appropriations Bills that would prevent the use of federal money to force integration in the South until an equal effort is made in the North and West. This effort is in addition to my strong support and sponsorship in the Senate of the section

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of HEW Appropriation Bill known as the Whitten Amendment regarding freedom of choice.

I will leave no stone unturned in my continued effort to bring about a more practical approach to this problem through conferences with the President and other officials, legislation, attempts to get practical, sensible men appointed to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court, and any other course available to me.

With every good wish and warm personal regards, I am

Your friend,

John Stennis
United States Senator

JS:hr
enclosure